

# THE NATIONAL ERA.

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## THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 11, 1847.

### REVIEW.

The Poetical Works of Lord Byron. Complete in one volume. Illustrated and arranged with illustrative notes. With a Portrait and View of Newstead Abbey. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 202 Broadway. Philadelphia: G. S. Appleton, 18 Chestnut street. 1847.

This large octavo contains the whole of the poetical works of Lord Byron. The illustrative notes, from the poems of Thomas Moore, Sir Walter Scott, Professor Wilson, and others, greatly enhance their interest and value. The style in which the book is got up reflects credit upon the publisher. The paper is good, the type beautifully distinct, the arrangement excellent.

We do not intend at this late day to attempt a critical examination of the writings of Byron. No poet of this century produced a greater sensation while living; none has been more talked of since death, than Lord Byron. The rank of the "poet" poet, his wayward career, his domestic misfortunes, the fascinating gloom of his epitaph, invested his genius with fatal attractions; but making large allowance for all this, in all the essential elements of poetic power, he stands above his contemporaries. That he produced nothing, as a whole, did justice to his genius, is evident, not of a lack of power, but of the absence of a high purpose. Nature was prodigal in her gifts, but he was prodigal in the use of them. There was no attribute of poetry in which he was deficient; there was none which he did not prostitute. And yet, so bright were the gleams of immortal genius, even amidst the surrounding mists of a sickly or vicious sentimentality, that he appeared scarcely "less than archangel ruined," and while we condemned, we could not but admire.

A writer of much acuteness, speaking of Byron's poems, says:

"Historically these poems are valuable, as records of that strange malady, that sickness of the soul, which has in our day cankered so visibly the rose of youth. It is common to speak of the Byron of the past, and the Byron of the present; the two former; and, if it could be avoided, would most assuredly be the latter also. But how can it always be avoided? Like as a fever rages in the blood before we are aware, even so creeps upon the soul this disease, offspring of a moral malady, an infinite impalpable till we feel it results within ourselves."

The feeling described here as "the sickness of the soul," is not very clearly defined by this critic. There is a period through which every soul of much sensibility passes—a period when the spiritual begins to assert its supremacy over the animal man; when merely physical enjoyment fails to satisfy the cravings of the heart; when faculties half developed pine for action, without exactly knowing how to put forth their strength; when moral forms of expression fail before the mind, obscuring the impressions of sense; when discontent with the present and visible, vague longings, misty visions of the future, languid melancholy, invests life with a gloom which charms while it tortures. It is the period of romance and sentiment, dream and reverie, when the two favorite words are, Safety and Destiny! It exists till the mind has an opportunity to try "the metal of its warfare"—till the field of action opens, and the pent-up sensibility, no longer chewing "sweet and bitter fancies," begins to expend itself upon realities—till, in the actual duties of Life, the earnest soul embodies its flowing forms of ideal good.

It is because Byron has given such form and coloring to no other poet, has to all the wild, strange, unsatisfied emotions of this dream-land of life, that he commands so much of the sympathy and admiration of early manhood.

But, in Byron we see Power, uncontrolled by Principle, Genius divorced from Goodness. If amid the heart-sickness over which he wall, he could have risen to the height of a Christian Faith, and thence have surveyed the Duty, Despair, and Hope of man, how his poetry would have been enabled! Then we should have had, satire without cynicism, wit without lewdness, sentiment without sensuality, philosophy without skepticism, and all forms of Physical and Intellectual Beauty, glowing with the inspiration of Goodness.

There is another poem, entitled "The Tomb of Columbus," in a still higher order, which we should like to notice, but we have not room.

### ABOLITION IN TUNIS—SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES.

The last number of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Reporter contains abstracts from Parliamentary papers on the slave trade, recently published, consisting of the correspondence between Sir Thomas Reade, British Consul at Tunis, and Lord Aberdeen, together with copies of the correspondence between the Consul and His Highness the Bey of Tunis, with respect to the breaking up of the slave markets in Tunis.

From these documents it appears that, in 1841, the Bey commanded that great work of reform which has immortalized his name, by prohibiting the exportation of slaves, or their importation from the interior. On the 12th instant, 1842, he declared all children born after that date free. This was followed by the suppression of the great Tunisian bazaar for the sale of slaves. Acting under his orders, the Bey's officers proceeded to the place where for centuries blacks and whites had been bargained for like cattle, drove out the detestable traffickers, and, to express in a solemn and emphatic manner the abhorrence in which their rulers held the commerce in human beings, pulled down and destroyed the huge market-houses.

In these noble movements—all of which were attended with great difficulty, owing to the prejudices and long-established customs of his Mohammedan subjects—the Bey was encouraged and supported by the counsels and official influence of Sir Thomas Reade and the Abolitionists England. At the Anti-Slavery Convention in of London, in 1843, a committee, of which Lewis Tappan of New York, was chairman, prepared an address, in behalf of the Abolitionists of Europe and America, congratulating the Bey on his praiseworthy reforms, and entreating him to carry out his benevolent purpose in the entire abolition of slavery in his dominions. This document, signed by the venerable Thomas Clarkson, was forwarded to the Bey through the British Consul. The effect of its timely word may be learned from the letter of the Bey himself, dated on the 25th of Moharem El-kram, 1842, (January 22, 1843):

"Our resolutions were likewise strengthened, and we felt a real satisfaction at the accord which united our sentiments and those expressed by the Anti-Slavery Society, which enabled itself by upholding the dignity of mankind, in the letter we received on its part, and which we answered on Rabat 1st, 1842."

"This affair never ceased to be the object of our attention, as well as the central point of our consideration; and we have thought proper to

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ty-six from Jerusalem; and in those days, when a large amount of yearly travelling was a solemn religious duty incumbent upon every family, it is scarcely possible but that relatives must have often visited each other, and that Jesus and his parents must have been in Hebrew.

The Cave of Machpelah is there; and the burial place of Abraham and his family was a sacred locality, and an object of pilgrimage to the Jews of all ages. As we inquire, then, and are asked respecting the enclosure of the Machpelah, we permit no Christian to enter, I could not but think who might have been before us in the same quest.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

## THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 14, 1847.

For the National Era.  
"FAV WHAT THOU OWEST."

We have often been surprised at the remissness, even of men of professedly correct principles, in not punctually discharging the obligations they have voluntarily assumed. A man is called upon to subscribe to a bond to be paid him, and he signs the instrument made by the applicant, he subscribes a certain sum, to be paid early in the year. The money does not come. He is written to once and again. Still he neglects to redeem his promise. Perchance he is angry, if he has to pay postage, or labor, or time, for the delay. You may think, probably erroneously, that the money is not wanted; that the enterprise, started and hitherto sustained by the money of those who subscribed with himself, and who promptly paid their subscriptions, can get along without his help. Or he may have other excuses. If he has a valid excuse, we make it known without delay to the person person.

Publishers of newspapers and other periodicals often suffer by such unwarrantable negligence. Men, in trade frequently are greatly injured in their business by the conduct of a large commercial merchant, who was induced to give his credit to the goods he sold to small traders in the country where he resided. One of them wrote him a long letter, giving a variety of reasons for not fulfilling his promise. The report to whom he addressed replied that he would forward the letter to his creditors in the city; and if he would receive it in lieu of a cash remittance, it would answer the purpose, not otherwise. We may all take a useful hint from this anecdote. Reader! will you?

### LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

"The reader will be greatly interested in the account given by our London correspondent, in the first page of the Era, of the state of things in Italy.

### INTERRUPTION OF THE MAILS.

The interruption for several days of the mails, by the injury of the railroad, has prevented us from attending to several things of interest, both in our correspondence and exchanges.

### THE CONVENTION AT BUFFALO.

We have several communications, received since our last issue, concerning the Buffalo Convention and its true policy. But they are all too late. This is the 14th, the Convention will meet on the 20th. The majority of the delegates will be on their way to the meeting before this number of the paper can reach them. The short articles on the outside of the Era, on the same subject, were in hand for last week's paper, but crowded out.

### LIBERTY ALMANAC.

We call attention to the advertisement of the Liberty Almanac for next year. It announces all that the reader need know. The Almanac is judiciously compiled.

### POWER OF CONGRESS.

We have for some time had in type an editorial in reply to one in the Baltimore Clipper, and containing also comments upon a communication of Mr. Birney. They will all appear next week.

### MAJOR LALLY'S DESPATCHES.

The organ of the Government does not always contain full reports of despatches from the army. There are matters which the Administration does not deem it prudent to spread before the public. If we are not grossly misinformed, it has in its possession a secret intelligence of acts committed by a portion of our troops, sent out against the guerrillas, who stand them as robbers and murderers. Of course, unless it would share the responsibility of so doing, it would take it, if it has not already taken, measures to bring in to condign punishment the officers and men whose deeds inflict deep disgrace even on a criminal war. Such things cannot be hidden forever.

### GREAT FRESHET.

Last Thursday night, this section of country was visited by a tremendous storm of thunder and lightning and rain. The rain fell in torrents in Baltimore, Washington, Georgetown, Alexandria, and in all the neighboring region, swelling every creek and river, and causing such a freshet as has seldom been witnessed. The mails from the North, West, and South, were interrupted for several days, two bridges and four culverts on the Washington railroad having been destroyed. The Potomac rose to a great height, and at one time great fears were entertained for the safety of the Long Bridge. Immense quantities of drift wood, with the products of fields and gardens, were floated down, and jammed against the abutments of the bridge. Many a poor family supplied itself with fuel for the winter. The low grounds about the city were overflowed, the culverts on the lower side of the avenue pretty well filled, and much timber floated off.

Much damage was done to the Chesapeake and Ohio canal.

### THE BETTER WAY, OR THE WIFE'S VICTORY.

The admirable story thus entitled, which appeared some weeks ago in the Era, has been copied into fifteen or twenty of our exchanges. A lady, whose talents entitle her opinions to consideration, has written us a communication, severely commenting upon it. As it proceeds altogether upon the erroneous assumption that the theory of wife's relations, acted upon by "Mrs. Leslie," is endorsed by us and by the author, and does not go far enough, we have decided to make it most respectfully decline it.

Our contemporary of the *Liberty Herald*, of Philadelphia, devotes a column and a half to the discussion of the story, and while acknowledging the talents of Mrs. Southworth, and the artistic merits of her production, expends considerable indignation upon the characters of the story! Well, this does seem odd. We had supposed that story tellers as well as poets had a certain license. Does anybody dream of holding Cooper or Walter Scott responsible for all the sentiments and principles avowed and acted upon by their imaginary offspring? Mrs. Southworth, in Leslie, has drawn a very natural character—a high-minded, just, but rather stern and arbitrary man, with exaggerated notions of a husband's prerogative. We don't believe our friend of the *Herald* answers to the unamiable parts of this picture, but we have seen very estimable men who do. This character is skilfully used by Mrs. Southworth as the test, and a very severe one, of a lovely woman, of great sensibility, much good sense, and genuine Christian fortitude, who, having embraced ultra views of the duty of submission in a wife, with a noble spirit of self-sacrifice, consistently carries out her convictions of right. We are not aware that the writer of the story entertains the same ultra views; all that she commits herself to is simply this—that, after all, it is the better way for a wife to submit to wrong than to make violent resistance; without attempting to convey the idea that the wrongdoer has any right than to tax the noble endurance of a Christian woman. And is not this the true doctrine? Forbearance is the duty of the husband as well as the wife, but especially it is graceful and amiable in woman, one gentle look or tone from whom will suite the rock in the heart of any man who is not brutalized.

As to our own creed, we think it highly orthodox. We believe that woman was taken at first

from the side of man, but that ever since man has been born of woman; that they are both very indispensable to each other, and that if "man, the hermit, sighed till woman smiled," she would have done the same thing had not her full gage, on first awaking to Life, rested upon her; that if, in certain sense, man is the head of the woman, we man is the head of man in a good many senses; that there is no conflict of rights, or, so far as we have ascertained, no natural hostility, between the sexes; that the Crowning Glory of Earth is the well-ordered Family, where husband and wife rule each other by Love and Reason, and without appeals to Prerogative on one side, or necessity of suffering submission on the other, both equally loved and respected by their children, both equally loving and reverencing the great Father of All.

By the way, we commence, on the first page of this week's Era, another sketch from the pen of Mrs. Southworth.

### THE NEGOTIATION—THE OBJECTS OF THE WAR.

The report of the negotiations for peace, made by the Mexican Commissioners, is doubtless correct, so far as it goes. It is temperate and conciliatory. What is said by the New Orleans papers to be the *ultimatum* of the Mexican Government contained several demands which would certainly have been waived, had the parties to the negotiation agreed in essential points. For example, article twelfth, proposing that this country should bind itself not to admit, under any circumstances, hereafter, the annexation of any district or territory now belonging to Mexico, was entirely inadmissible. Nor do we believe it would have been insisted upon, any more than the next two articles, requiring duties on all goods carried into Mexican ports since their occupation by the American forces, and demanding from the United States indemnity to Mexican citizens for injuries inflicted in the course of the war.

On what points, then, were the negotiations broken off? The report made by the Mexican Commissioners to their Government, explains:

"The point upon which, as a result of the discussion, the negotiation stopped, was this: Mr. Trist showed himself disposed to abandon his first pretension to Lower California, and to a part of Upper California, by which the former was to be given to the United States. He offered, that, if there remained no other point of difference for the conclusion of peace than that relative to the territory which is comprised between the Bravo and the Nueces, he would consult his Government upon it, with some hope of good results, although he had as yet received no definite answer to his proposition. But the excess of New Mexico on our part was a condition which could not be yielded; and, from the opinion which we have, it would be a wise course to withdraw from the negotiations."

It must be borne in mind that we have not yet full accounts of the course of the negotiations. The intelligent correspondent of the New Orleans paper, writing from Vera Cruz, September 21st, says:

"I think I have already mentioned to you that the Mexican Government, in attempting to treat with Mr. Trist, offered us nine miles up the Del Norte from the Nueces; and that, in his opinion, there should be no change in the Nueces, and that the river should remain neutral; and, from that point, a line parallel with 37 deg. lat.—thus giving us

"the Bay of San Francisco, and a little to the south; so I think, let the scattered Government be where it will, they will now be glad to save their country by giving us a reasonable slice."

Supposing this to be true, the first essential difference between the two Governments was reduced to a very narrow compass. The strip of territory in dispute between the Nueces and the Rio Grande del Norte, is not a degree in width, and lies along 98 deg. and 102 deg. west longitude. This narrow, worthless bit of land Mexico wished for a boundary, and was willing to bind herself to plant no new colonies upon it. We do not wonder, therefore, that Mr. Trist—who was in the State Department when the Administration, after having positively affirmed and clearly demonstrated the title of the United States to the Oregon Territory up to 54 deg. 40 min. at last, to avoid the horrors of war, gave up its claim to five degrees forty minutes, bringing down the boundary of the Territory to 49 deg.—should entertain some hope that the same Administration, for the sake of staving off the ravages of actual war, would be willing to yield its claims over an insignificant strip of territory, not one-tenth as large.

The Washington *Union* cannot think he would be guilty of such an absurdity, forgetting that Mr. Trist could not suppose that more value would be attached by his Government to the Del Norte than to the land between the Bravo and Nueces.

"The question which every patriotic man in the Union is hereby called upon seriously to consider, is, the necessity of taking territory from Mexico by force, for the purpose of extending, and thus perpetuating, Negro Slavery and Slave Representation! The truth of the matter is, that the opinion which we formed in the Union, should seriously consider it."

These are the most obvious reflections which occur, in thinking of the subject. A portion of the Union and two consequences may be easily foreseen by their numbers and the temptations of Abolitionists, they will be rendered insubordinate, and the result too terrible for contemplation; or their excess may make them profitless, and those who own them be obliged to set them free, and those who are to be paid for them, to be compelled to submit to ignominious terms! Such a people may be conquered, but only by extermination.

We put it to every sober-minded, just American, that the Mexican Commissioners maintain, in the documents emanating from their pens, and published by us last week, a dignified, manly position. Their spirit was conciliatory, not abject—firm and elevated, not obstinate or haughty. That was the time to make a magnanimous offer to the Mexican States of admission into our Union, by conquer, by purchase, or any conceivable means of acquisition. We cannot find any division of opinion among the public men of America, as to the increase of territory. All classes agree alike to regard the attainment of this object as a great national blessing. Those who are to be paid for them, to be compelled to submit to ignominious terms! Such a people may be conquered, but only by extermination.

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denouncing. The very fact that they have acted as they have done, proves that his provocation to severe speech must have been severe. We hope Mr. Hull will go back to Cambridge, and set up again his press; only let him be sure to "bless when they curse," and "when reviled, revile not again."

#### ANTI-SLAVERY MOVEMENTS ABROAD.

We are permitted to take the following extract from a letter received by a friend in New York, from a gentleman in London, dated 15th 9th me.

"Mr. Scoble is now in Holland, where he has been for the last fortnight, endeavoring to urge on the Friends of Freedom in that country, the adoption of a complete and immediate abolition. He has no doubt great will result. His mission to France, a few months ago, was singularly successful in awakening the friends of the slave to their duty. It is merely a question of time, as that the spirit of slavery in the French colonies seems upon its necessity, and even the colonists are crying out, 'If it is to be done, do it now at once!'

"You will have perceived, by the last reports, that slavery has been abolished, in part, in the Danish West India Colonies. All children born hereafter will be retained in their bondage for twelve years. We may safely predict that their servitude will cease at a much earlier period. The planter will find it to his interest to release them, so that he will be his due compensation for his services! cowards! skulking cowards! who dare not meet this question fairly. The excitement for five or ten minutes was most intense!"

At length, some order being restored, the question was taken, and the Chair sustained.

The address not having been read, a motion was made to decide the question, so that the address and the resolutions might be voted upon separately, but it was lost.

"The next and days were finally taken, and the Chairman declared that the Convention had adopted the address and resolutions. Some of the Barbourers inquired if "any" were cast, and called for the vote. The Chairman repeated the question, so that there were but 2 votes in the negative—but failed to give the vote.

While some of the Barbourers were protesting against the whole proceeding as illegal and void, the chairman put a motion to adjourn, declared it carried, and vacated the chair, amid great confusion.

First—District—John G. Chapman, Whig. Second District—J. D. Rowan, Whig gain. Third District—F. W. Ligon, Democrat. Fourth District—R. M. McLane, Democrat. Fifth District—A. Evans, Whig gain. Sixth District—John W. Crisfield, Whig.

Last winter the delegation stood, four Democrats and two Whigs. As the election continues for two years, while they pretended a willingness to meet it. Probably, if they were brought to the test, not a half-dozen of them would dare vote against the principle of the Proviso, but the majority of them would not even be staled privately that, if brought to the necessity of voting on the subject, they should be obliged to vote for the Proviso."

We presume this is a pretty fair account of the election of Towns, the Democratic candidate for Governor in Georgia. The Democratic papers anti-slavery in the Legislature on joint ballot, which will secure the election of two Democratic United States Senators.

In Maryland, no Senators were chosen this year. The Senate now consists of 13 Whigs and 8 Democrats. The House of Delegates last year consisted of 39 Whigs and 29 Democrats. This year the Whigs have gained five members, so that they will not merely wear the collar which Slavery has forged for it. It is in their power to give such a lesson to pro-slavery politicians as can never be forgotten.

"A gentleman who kept an account of the balloting, says only 53 votes (12 less than a quorum) were cast—51 for and 2 against the resolutions. No vote was taken on Mr. Field's resolution.

"The Whigs have, however, succeeded in getting all the time, while they pretended a willingness to meet it. Probably, if they were brought to the test, not a half-dozen of them would dare vote against the principle of the Proviso, but the majority of them would not even be staled privately that, if brought to the necessity of voting on the subject, they should be obliged to vote for the Proviso."

**THE DEMOCRACY IN NEW YORK.**

We have already briefly noticed the proceedings of the Democratic State Convention in New York. Its organization was not completed till the fourth day. What followed after that is detailed at length by a correspondent of the New York Tribune, from whose letter we glean whatever may be of interest to the majority of our readers.

On the morning of Saturday, Mr. Smith, of Wayne, moved the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That we believe in the dignity and the rights of Free Labor, and that we will sustain the cause upon the same soil with Slave Labor; and that therefore it is neither right nor wise to devote the temperate climate and fertile soil of Free territory (to heretofore acquired) to Slave Labor, to the exclusion of the Free Labor of all the States."

"Resolved, That we adhere to all the compromises of the Constitution; that we will maintain with inflexible firmness all the reserved rights of the States; but we decline uncompromising hostility to the extension of Slavery to territory now Free, by the act of the General Government."

An attempt was made by "Old Hickory" to choke Mr. Smith off, but it failed, and he made an eloquent speech in support of the resolutions.

The "Old Hickorys" then succeeded in laying the resolutions on the table, with the understanding that they should be taken up when the nominations were completed.

These having been disposed of, Mr. Seymour, Chairman of the Committee on Address and Resolutions, reported. He was excused from reading the address, the resolution merely sustained the Administration, and said nothing of slavery.

David Dudley Field, of New York, immediately moved Smith's resolutions, as an amendment to the series reported by the committee.

They were rejected, to, as out of order, and Mr. Brady sneeringly referred to Mr. Field, as one of the signers of the Secret Circular.

Mr. F. replied with spirit, and declared that that was one of the acts of his life on which he could look with entire satisfaction.

The "Hunkers" resolved to prevent all discussion of the question, and taxed their ingenuity to gag Mr. Field, but gave up in despair.

Mr. F., to avoid all technical objections to taking up the resolutions, from the table, presented a new resolution, as follows:

"Resolved, That, while the Whig Freeman, of New York, represents the Free State convention, which faithfully adheres to all the compromises of the Constitution, and jealousy maintain all the reserved rights of the States, they declare—since the crisis has arrived when the question must be met—they uncompromising hostility to every act of the Federal Government for the introduction of Slavery into Free Territory hereafter to be acquired."

The correspondent of the Tribune thus reports his remarks in support of this resolution:

"Mr. Field said that a traitor probably, in the interest of his party, was to be annexed to the United States, and that there was a project on foot to surrender up all of this immense tract south of 36 degrees 30 minutes to the greedy master-slave. The territory, said Mr. Field, will come to you free, when you receive the footprints of a single slave. You are to make laws for its government. Will you, dare you, make a law which will make merchandise of your fellow-beings? which will permit the traffic in human blood and sinews?—No, sir, if a slave is brought into your country, it is his property, it is the property of the Federal Government. It is your law, it is your act, which is to consign your fellow-beings to unrequited toil which shall end only with their lives. Slavery must be planted in the new territory, or we will have a civil war. We must make a treaty with Mexico, by which she shall cede to us California or New Mexico, or both; and it may be agreed that until otherwise ordered, the government of this vast tract shall be vested in a sovereign, and the people appointed by the President. These may have been established immediately. Even now a treaty may have been negotiated, and is perhaps on its way to Washington, as fast as steam can bring it. The Democracy of the North would speak out on this subject, and the result would be that it can be brought home. We protest, too, that Santa Anna, in his God's name, is to be condemned for his conduct in this country, now Free, which may be hereafter acquired by any action of the Government of our Union."

This resolution was moved by Horace Greeley. Mr. Brooks, of New York, reported, from the committee an address; which was also adopted, with great unanimity. The following passage defines, we suppose, the position of the Whig party, on the subject of Slavery-extension:

"Fellow-citizens: Disguise the Mexican war as sophistry may, the great truth cannot be put down, nor lied down, that it exists because of the annexation of Texas; that from that cause we proceed, and declare ourselfs free from all political connection with the conservative faction?"

which, he considered, would cut off the amendment of Mr. Field, and bring the Convention to a direct vote on the resolutions of the committee.

The Chair so decided, when an appeal was taken. "A scene followed," says the *Tribune Correspondent*, "which baffles description. Some dozen were trying to speak, and the others to see how much confusion they could create, by stamping, hissing, shouting, grimaicing, crying 'order!' 'order!' 'question?' 'question!' &c. Above all the other voices, Hon. Preston King, of St. Lawrence, was heard to say something about a midnight outrage (it was an hour past midnight) on Freedoms, which they would not dare perpetrate in the light of open day. He said they were cowards! cowards! skulking cowards! who dare not meet this question fairly. The excitement for five or ten minutes was most intense!"

At length, some order being restored, the question was taken, and the Chair sustained.

The address not having been read, a motion was made to decide the question, so that the address and the resolutions might be voted upon separately, but it was lost.

"The next and days were finally taken, and the Chairman declared that the Convention had adopted the address and resolutions. Some of the Barbourers inquired if "any" were cast, and called for the vote. The Chairman repeated the question, so that there were but 2 votes in the negative—but failed to give the vote.

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The following are the members, elect, so far as known:

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We suggest to the Democrats of Lancaster, Pa., that, inasmuch as they could not agree upon a resolution complimentary to Mr. Buchanan, they take the following into consideration at their next meeting:

*Whereas* the Constitution of the United States is based upon compromises, one of the objects of which was to prevent the extension of the area of freedom in North America, south of 36½ degrees and north of 49 degrees, north latitude—therefore,

*Resolved*, That their concession to the British Government of one-half of Oregon, is afeat of statesmanship equalled, if not surpassed, by his recent letter advising the cession to Slavery of all territory south of 36 degrees 30 minutes; and that both acts demonstrate that he sees much further into the compromises than other people.

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# THE NATIONAL ERA.

## CORRESPONDENCE OF THE ERA.

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

10 GIBSON SQUARE, LONDON,

September 9, 1847.

DEAR SIR: It cannot be that you do not feel most deeply interested in that grand struggle which is now going forward between the Pope and the Emperor of Austria—those great personages representing respectively the spirit of Freedom and the genius of Despotism. You have [we learn it with great satisfaction] sent to Rome an envoy, who is authorized to complete with the Sovereign of the Roman States a treaty of amity and commerce, and you are to have a nuncio from Rome in your city. I beg leave to express the satisfaction I feel in observing the course you have taken in this matter, and the moral courage of your country in not being afraid to treat with a great man, who, although he sustains an ecclesiastical dignity which you are not likely to approve, is not the less entitled to respect and sympathy, as a most glorious champion in the cause of civil freedom, administrative reform, and political improvement. As it is a unique thing to find such a Pope as the present, and as he has that true nobility of mind which urges him to occupy the singular and difficult position in which he stands, you deem it right to make the most of him, and cordially to co-operate with him in his great work of reform.

You will be glad to find that enlightened individuals, holding high positions in our country, are doing all that can be done, before the next meeting of Parliament, for the purpose of overcoming the difficulty which "the wisdom of our ancestors" and the perhaps advisable policy of former times, placed in the way of our political intercourse with Rome. You will find, perhaps, in more than one of the papers which aspire to the responsible position of leaders of public sentiment among Dissenters, no small amount of amiable fears of tremendous evils resulting from a friendly union with Pius IX, the present archconservative. I hope, however, that they will be easily dispelled by his frank and frank dealing with us. The most foolishly urged argument in favor of a union with the Pope, is that portion of them whom they may be supposed to represent. There is a great man, having a considerable territory in Italy, who has been encroaching on the Papal States, and corrupting those who have allowed him his protection and influence among his people the various agencies which tend to elevate mind, and emancipate it from the serf-like spirit by which "of Italy" have hitherto been bound. It is most foolishly urged against him, that "he is a Pope, and that, therefore, a great many unfeeling things against our Protestantism, and against the honor of our Protestant Queen, her crown and dignity. I believe it is felt here that such a man as the Pope, President, King, and others, are not to be trusted, and that he is to all intents and purposes a temporal despot in the Roman States, and, as such, may be dealt with by those who give no recognition whatever to his spiritual claims. And as it is *ex officio* work on Monday Thursday, or any other day, I believe, to be done, the course will be pursued, and the whole Anti-Slavery party will be pleased to see that he has done so will not fail to cheer the heart of the veteran Poniatoff, and to increase the enthusiasm which his subjects feel in their noble cause. It is very possible that the opportunity which is now offered to your country to enter into a co-operation with a reforming Pope, may be the means of laying prostrate in the dust the strongest bulwark which now impedes the progress of freedom and enlightened sentiment in Europe. Leaving out of view the means of a general instrument, such as the Pope, and that, *opposite* to a great many unfeeling things against our Protestantism, and against the honor of our Protestant Queen, her crown and dignity. I believe it is felt here that such a man as the Pope, President, King, and others, are not to be trusted, and that he is to all intents and purposes a temporal despot in the Roman States, and, as such, may be dealt with by those who give no recognition whatever to his spiritual claims. And as it is *ex officio* work on Monday Thursday, or any other day, I believe, to be done, the course will be pursued, and the whole Anti-Slavery party will be pleased to see that he has done so will not fail to cheer the heart of the veteran Poniatoff, and to increase the enthusiasm which his subjects feel in their noble cause.

THE PROVISO AND THE LIBERTY PARTY.

HARDWICK, Vt., September 25, 1847.

MR. WEBSTER: Why may I not speak, and show my opinion? I do not believe that the leaders, the office-seekers, in the old parties, will give up the Wilmett Proviso, and try to get up some other issue for the Presidential election. The question is, shall the Liberty party join issue with the Sardinians? Not, however, in the cause of the principles of the Proviso? Why not? The Slave Power has fairly tendered this issue. The old parties refuse to accept the offer. Is not the way fairly open for the Liberty party to come forward and accept the offer? I do not believe, however, that they may not be inclined, that God in his goodness has given us so good an opportunity to meet the enemy face to face?

Can we hope for an issue more unexpected? The principles are reasonably just and simple. The old parties seem to fight their own battles, and truth and justice gain its victory. The most encouraging thing is that the power which would ruthlessly put down the march of freedom is now about to stand, and, perhaps quite, alone in its unfeeling enterprise. The most encouraging thing is that the Slave Power are pronouncing a freedom of freedom and the Pope, and in such manner as to encourage the hope that no appeal to arms will be deemed desirable and politic. The love of liberty is not extinguished in the breasts of the Italian people, and the movements of the Pope have added a new element of example to an extent as to set all Italy in a spirit of combination, such as might not have been anticipated by the most careful observer a year ago.

The accounts received in Italy to-day state that every town in Italy there are armaments of attachment, located in the service for the Pope, and for the sovereigns of Sardinia, Tuscany, and Lucas, together with an ardent longing for independence, and a determination to obtain it. It is stated that Austria is now determined to make trial of every town or city in Italy in which a native Guards regiment shall be established, and that Rome may now be considered in a state of siege. The King of Sardinia is every day becoming more firm and decided against Austria. The Grand Duke of Tuscany has thrown off the yoke of the Papal States, and would not let the Papal party take up arms, and then sent to work on the fortifications of the battle field, because the enemy will not give us the whole field? Is this wise? Would not the soldier be better off on an island than on the mainland? They generally have a preference of the fortifications to the mainland, and that is the reason that they are shut up in small forts, perhaps three or four hundred in an enclosure of ten or fifteen rods square, never permitted to go outside with a written pass from an officer, even when they are taken out to work. The soldiers are men who are attached with leather harnesses and a common of a non-commissioned officer and a guard. When they have a pass, and stay out a little over the time allotted for their return, the guard-house, for a month or more, is their portion at night, and hard labor through the day, with the iron chain fastened to the leg with a chain fastened to the leg with a chain, and a part of their rations are stopped. I have seen men, for a trifling offense, made to kneel in front of the line of their heads shaved, their clothes patched with all kinds of coarse cloth, and charred with fire, and filled with the falling leaves of the Lombardy poplar, which grow on the fortifications in order to keep the soldiers stopped, and then sent to work on the remainder of their time on the fortifications, at Mobile, New Orleans, or some other sickly place, without pay. In 1830, when I was a boy, I have seen men, for a trifling offense, made to kneel in front of the line of their heads shaved, their clothes patched with all kinds of coarse cloth, and charred with fire, and filled with the falling leaves of the Lombardy poplar, which grow on the fortifications in order to keep the soldiers stopped, and then sent to work on the remainder of their time on the fortifications, at Mobile, New Orleans, or some other sickly place, without pay. 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